

# Border Eagle

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas ... Together we 'XL'



## Newsline

A glance at news affecting Laughlin

Col. (Ret.) Donald J. Ferris, commander of 3646th Pilot Training Wing here from 1969 - 1970, died Sept. 24. During his time at Laughlin, he graduated 840 student pilots. He left behind his wife, Norma C. Ferris, daughter Susan Peters, granddaughter Kimberly Miller, and two sisters Jerry Reynolds and Janet Hartman. Funeral services were held at Fort Sam Houston National Cemetery.

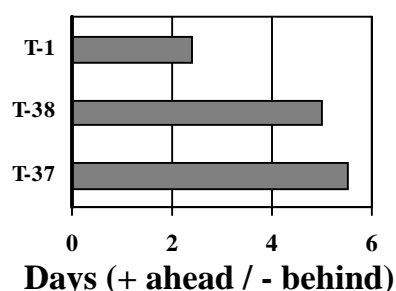


Ferris

### 47 FTW mission status

(As of Oct. 13)

#### Student Timeline



Sorties flown in FY 00:  
1020

Hours flown in FY 00:  
1531.3

Pilot wings earned in FY 00:  
0

Pilot wings earned since 1963:  
11,361



## Air Force entertainment showcase gives performance here Wednesday

By Tech. Sgt. Tom Hankus

Public affairs

The Air Force entertainment showcase, Tops in Blue, will perform Wednesday at the Paul Poag Theater, at 746 South Main Street in downtown Del Rio.

The event opens to military identification card holders at 6:30 p.m. and to the general public starting at 7 p.m. Admission is free, and a free shuttle service will be available from Laughlin for military members.

Prior to the performance, starting at 4:30 p.m., the base will hold a nominally priced barbecue buffet for club members

at Club XL.

For more than 45 years, Tops in Blue has been entertaining audiences around the world.

The 1999 edition of Tops in Blue, titled "Just For the Fans," promises to energize audiences for 90 minutes on stage. A celebration of music and dance, the show will feature performances of favorite hits from the '70s through the 90's - including pop, rock, disco, rhythm and blues and country selections.

The Tops in Blue team will visit more than 100 locations and perform 120 shows this year in the United States and 20 other countries.

Since the Tops in Blue formed, the group has appeared on film, produced albums, and appeared on national TV with Bob Hope, Lee Greenwood, Alabama, Barbara Mandrell, and Boyz II Men. The group has also performed at six World Fairs and during the halftime show for Super Bowl XIX.

This year's Tops in Blue is being sponsored by USPA&IRA, AT&T, Coca-Cola and Landstar/Ranger Government Transportation\*.

For more information, contact Kc Radloff at 298-5554.

*\*No Federal endorsement of sponsors intended.*

## Air Force fatalities down 14 percent in fiscal year '99

By Maj. Gen. Francis C. Gideon, Jr.

Air Force Safety Center commander

The Air Force experienced the fewest fatalities in history during fiscal year 1999, surpassing last year's record by 14 percent.

Unfortunately, 60 Air Force members were lost in ground and flight mishaps, the majority of which (51) occurred on the ground.

Although we can proudly point to a 15 percent reduction in off-duty fatalities over last year's record, we cannot ignore a more than 300 percent increase in on-duty fatalities (10 in FY99 versus

three in FY 98).

What can we learn from these numbers? Most importantly, 80 percent of all ground fatalities were motor vehicle related and many of our Air Force family would be alive today if they had applied minimal risk management and utilized appropriate protective equipment such as seatbelts or helmets. Also, alcohol, peer pressure, or complacency clouded judgment in many cases and led to fatal decisions.

By most measures, it was not a good year in aviation safety. FY99 was the Air Force's worst year since

**See 'Safety,' page 7**



Photo by Zenaphir Bond

### Gettin ready!

Staff Sgt. John Mendez, 9th Air Support Operations Squadron, Fort Hood, Texas, applies camouflage paint to the face of Antonio Fuentes Arocha at Air Amistad '99 here Sunday. See pages 12-13 for more photos of the air show.

## t inside h scoop

### Commander corner ...

Lt. Col. Martin Kelly, wing plans and exercises chief, explains the Chemical Weapons Convention.

**Page 2**

### Flu shots available ...

Members of the 47th Medical Group are making their way around base, vaccinating against influenza.

**Page 3**

### IDEA program ...

The IDEA program recently underwent its latest change, designed to quickly get rewards to suggesters.

**Page 14**

# Commander

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By Lt. Col.  
**Martin Kelly**  
47th Flying Training  
Wing, chief of plans  
and exercises

## CWC inspection – not likely, but could happen here

Chemical weapons have been in use since 1100 B.C., when crops were burned to deny the enemy food to support its army. In 600 B.C., the river Pleisthenes was contaminated to cause illness among the defenders of Kirrha.

The first laws prohibiting the use of chemical warfare against enemies were passed in Greece, Rome and India to condemn poisoning wells and food supplies.

Today we have seen on television the results of these types of weapons and the devastating effects they have on people around the globe. In 1990, the U.S. and USSR signed the Bilateral Destruction Agreement. This

prohibited chemical weapons production and called for each country to destroy most of its chemical weapons capability. Although this bilateral agreement had no means of verification, the two superpowers demonstrated their willingness to halt production and begin destruction of chemical weapons.

We now operate under a treaty known as the Chemical Weapons Convention. Under this treaty, Laughlin members could see an international inspection team visit the base to ensure we are not violating the provisions governing chemical weapons production, storage and use.

The CWC opened for signature in Paris Jan. 13, 1993, culminating 25 years of negotiation in the United Nations. The U.S. Senate ratified the CWC in April,

1997. It now has been signed by 169 state parties and ratified by more than 120 of those that signed.

This treaty prohibits research, development, production, stockpiling, transfer and use of chemical weapons.

All parties are required to destroy all chemical weapon stockpiles and production facilities under their jurisdiction or control, as well as chemical weapons abandoned on the territory of another state party. The CWC also prohibits the use of riot control agents for warfare.

The CWC includes verification by comprehensive data reporting and detailed on-site inspections by other member inspectors. All facilities that produce or consume treaty-limited “scheduled” chemicals above

*While the prospect of Laughlin undergoing a challenge inspection is remote, everyone should be aware there are international treaties that can impact us.*

**See ‘Kelly,’ page 14**

## Air Force Chief of Staff encourages members to take web-based survey and... Speak up!

By Air Force Chief of Staff  
**Gen. Michael E. Ryan**

WASHINGTON – If you had the chance to sit down with me and tell me how you’d

change the Air Force, what would you say?

While I can’t meet with all of you, I can offer an alternative that will make your voice heard and include you in a process that will make a difference — the

1999 Chief of Staff Survey.

The theme for this year’s CSAF survey is “speak today, shape tomorrow.” By speaking up, you can play a part in changing your Air Force world and shaping tomorrow’s. We’ll take

your responses to this year’s survey and compare them to the 1997 survey results to see where things may have improved or where they may have gotten worse. But to get the most accurate picture, I need each of you

to participate.

More than 206,000 Air Force officers, enlisted members and civilians took the 1997 survey. That’s about a 39 percent return rate. I asked for feedback

**See ‘Survey,’ page**

### Actionline Call 298-5351

when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

*Winfield W. Scott III*

**Col. Winfield W. Scott III**

47th Flying Training Wing commander



AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Equal Opportunity	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170

**C**all: I am calling regarding the parking problem in front of hangar 3. We perceive a little discrimination problem. Security police seem to be ticketing civilians – but they are not ticketing pilots. We have personally witnessed this happening today. If you could contact me, I would really appreciate it. We are all here to work and should be treated the same. Thank you.

**R**esponse: We understand your perception that there is discrimination in the way citations are issued. However, the statistics maintained by the 47th Security Forces Squadron

Administration Flight show that military members receive citations just as frequently as our civilian employees do.

Our Security Forces personnel have been instructed to issue citations to any illegally parked vehicles that pose a safety hazard. A work order was initiated to have the no parking area clearly marked and construction is due to begin on a new 50-spot parking lot shortly. In the meantime, additional parking spaces are available in the lot on the corner of Arnold and Second Street. Thank you.

**C**all: I recently returned from my temporary duty assignment in Saudi Arabia. I worked out in the weight room

before I left, and when I went to the gym when I got back here, I noticed that the equipment is the exact same as it was when I left. I feel the equipment is outdated. During my TDY, the gym in Saudi Arabia had equipment that was newer than our equipment. I’ve been downtown and their equipment is also newer than ours. I’ve seen updates to the aerobics room, and am wondering when the weight room will experience any upgrades to the facility. Thank you.

**R**esponse: Thank you for your call. The time frame to replace existing equipment is four to five years, depending on the amount of use the particular

piece receives. Not all equipment is replaced at the same time, but rather in cycles. New equipment is ordered when existing equipment is deemed unusable, or if there is a large demand for a particular piece of equipment. Currently, we are scheduled to get 14 new pieces of Nautilus equipment and new flat benches in the next fiscal year.

If an individual would like the XL Fitness Center to obtain a certain piece of equipment, they may let the athletic director, Gerald Gott, know. He will research the item and place it in the budget for purchase if it meets Air Force requirements.



## Border Eagle

Col. Winfield W. Scott III

**Commander**

1st Lt. Angela O'Connell

**Public affairs officer**

Senior Airman Mike Hammond

**Editor**

Airman Brad Pettit

**Staff writer**

(Flag design: Staff Sgt. Marc Barnes,  
7th Bomb Wing, Dyess AFB, Texas.)

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### Deadlines, Advertising

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, Ext. 5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.** Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday. Submissions can be E-mailed to: michael.hammond@laughlin.af.mil or regional.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil Visit Laughlin's website at <http://www.lau.aetc.af.mil/>

***"Excellence –  
not our goal, but  
our standard."***  
– 47 FTW motto

## Safety Stats

As of Sept. 30  
(Fiscal Year)

	'99	Total '98
On-duty mishaps	5	11
Off-duty mishaps	12	7
Traffic mishaps	2	4
Sports & Rec mishaps	6	3
Fatalities	0	2

# Flu prevention measures taken at Laughlin

**By Master Sgt. Malcolm Sylvester**

*47th Aeromedical/Dental Squadron*

Halloween, Thanksgiving and Christmas are near and soon there will be a flu bug in the air. The chances of falling victim to this virus can actually be prevented by receiving the influenza vaccine during the early fall months.

Symptoms of influenza include fever, chills, headaches, cough, sore throat and muscle aches. I am sure that most people have experienced some or all of these uncomfortable conditions in the past. Although most people are only ill for a few days, some may have a much more serious illness that may require hospitalization. An average of 20,000 people die in the United States each year from influenza-related illnesses.

Each year, the influenza vaccine is formulated to prevent the most prevalent and serious strains present at the time. The viruses targeted for the 1999/2000 influenza season are: A/Sydney/5/97-Like (H3N2), A/Beijing/262/95-Like (H1N1), and B/Beijing/184/93-Like.

The 47th Medical Group has activated this Air Force headquarters-directed program to ensure that the base population is adequately protected from these strains of viruses by offering the vaccine early in the season. Protection is achieved between one and two weeks after immunization and lasts for one full year. All active duty members must receive this mandatory immunization in order to maintain their health while ensuring a state of readiness.

The most frequently asked question is if one can actually get the flu from the shot. The answer is a definite no. The influenza vaccine is a killed (inactive) virus, which will cause the body to produce antibodies to the strains of the flu virus in the vaccine, subsequently providing immunity. The vaccine is available at the immunization clinic Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Active duty and Reserve members will be given first priority with these shots. However, the 47th Medical Group has a limited surplus of this vaccine for individuals that are considered high risk (chronic health conditions, as determined by your provider) and those who are 65 and older.

Other members of the military family, to include retirees and Department of Defense civilian workers, will also be provided the opportunity to be immunized. Children under the age of 18 must schedule an appointment with the pediatric clinic prior to



Photo by Senior Airman Mike Hammond

Col. Skip Scott, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, receives his annual influenza vaccination from Senior Airman Dan Grabski, 47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron allergy and immunization technician.

receiving the vaccine.

Those requiring additional health information can visit the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention website at <http://www.cdc.gov/> or contact Staff Sgt. Paul Doty or Senior Airman Dan Grabski at the 47th Medical Group Public Health/Immunization Flight by calling 298-6380 or 298-6469.

Squadron	Location	Bldg.	Date	Time
84FTS	Foyer Entrance	320	Today	1 – 5 p.m.
85FTS	off Laughlin Dr.	320	Today	1 – 5 p.m.
86FTS	Foyer Entrance	320	Today	1 – 5 p.m.
87FTS	off Laughlin Dr.	320	Today	1 – 5 p.m.
96FTS	Same as above	320	Today	1 – 5 p.m.
47 MSS	MPF	246	Tues.	9 – 11 p.m.
All Others	Fiesta Center	235	Nov. 4	9 – 11 p.m.
All Others	Fiesta Center	235	Nov. 9	1:30 – 4 p.m.

# Budget is key to controlling holiday expenses

**By Tech. Sgt. Amy Urban**

*Laughlin Family Support Center*

Managing the family budget is a full-time job that can become more complicated as families prepare for the holidays. Even the best budget can be challenged by expectations at this time of year.

Remember to keep some flexibility in any holiday spending plan. Even after every purchase has been looked at along with any activity that might occur during the holidays, it is a good idea to have an additional budget line for unexpected expenses.

Almost everyone runs into some unplanned expense over the holidays. With a spending plan, a family will be able to take advantage of an opportunity for an extra family activity or buy an item that is an exceptional bargain – even if it is an

unplanned purchase.

Most people have heard enough advice and know they should make a gift list and budget what they want to spend. What can slip by, though, are all the expenses that aren't wrapped up. It's easy to forget to add some of the holiday incidentals such as decorations, wrapping paper, bows, cards and postage; additional entertaining, extra gas for the car and an increase in long-distance phone calls also need to be considered.

Tips for service people, additional baking supplies, a grab-bag gift or two and donations to charities can all add up to more than a family budgets for its formal gift list.

When charging something to a credit card, try deducting the amount from the checkbook balance. Then, when the bill arrives, that person will know the money is there. Those who have not saved enough for

all their holiday expenses and use charge cards as a line of credit should use caution.

When using credit, one needs to know how the bills will affect his or her budget in the coming months. Under normal conditions, monthly credit payments (excluding mortgage payments, but including car payments) should not exceed 15 percent of a person's take-home pay.

The Personal Financial Management Program is a cooperative effort of the Air Force, commanders, first sergeants and supervisors of enlisted members, officers, civil service employees and retirees.

For more information on budgeting holiday expenses, please call or visit the Family Support Center in building 246, room 301 or call 298-5109 for an appointment.

Happy Holidays!

## The *XLer*

**Hometown:** Hillsboro, Ohio.

**Family:** Wife, Un Hye; daughter, Alexandra Grace, 4 weeks old.

**Time at Laughlin:** 10 months.

**Time in service:** 14 years.

**Why did you join the Air Force?** The opportunity to serve my country and see the world!

**Name one way to improve life at Laughlin:** Make Laughlin a remote tour of duty.

**Greatest accomplishment:** Broke even on my tax return.

**Long-term goals:** Retire from the Air Force, move to the west coast and continue my health career.

**Hobbies:** Reading a good book, running, weight lifting and spending time with my family.

**Favorite food:** Pizza.

**Favorite beverage:** Beer.

**Bad habit:** I drink too much coffee.

**Motto:** All things are possible with hard work, dedication and realistic goals.

**If you could spend one hour with any person in history, who would it be and why?** Adolph Hitler. I'd ask 'what were you thinking' and question all of his atrocities.



Photo by Zenaphir Bond

**1st Lt. Terry W. Williamson**  
*47th Medical Support Squadron*

## Chapel Schedule

### Catholic

-Daily Mass 12:05 p.m.

-Saturday Mass 5 p.m.

-Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.

-Confession 4:15 - 4:45 p.m.

Saturday, or by appointment.

-Choir 6 p.m. Thursdays.

-Sunday school 11 a.m.,  
religious education building.

fellowship hall.

-Sunday School, 9:30 a.m.,

religious education building.

-Awana, Wednesdays from 6 -  
7:30 p.m.

(For more information on  
AWANA, call Anthony or Nedjra  
Russell at 298-7504).

### Jewish

– Max Stool

219 West Strickland St.

Del Rio, Texas

Phone: 775-4519

### Protestant

-General worship 11 a.m.

-Bible study video luncheon

11 a.m. Thursday, chapel

*For more information on chapel events and services, call 5111.*



## From the Blotter

(47th Security Forces Squadron)



**Oct. 8** – A member of 47th Flying Training Wing safety office reported damage to a bird cannon cabinet.

**Oct. 11** – A dependent daughter of an active-duty member was bitten by a family pet.

**Oct. 11** – Security forces and fire department personnel responded to a report of smoke coming from a dishwasher in the trailer park.

**Oct. 12** – The law enforcement desk received a call of a grill fire in the base housing area. A responding patrol extinguished the fire.

**Oct. 13** – Security forces patrols and investigators responded to a report of a stolen vehicle at the base gym. It was discovered that the vehicle had been parked in a different location.

The Texas legislator enacted several new laws. The follow is a list of changes to the Motor Vehicle Code:

**SB 114** – legal limit for alcohol concentration is lowered to .08

**SB 1558** – aircraft are included in criminal trespass law

**HB 707** – the grace period for an expired inspection sticker is 60 days when the defect is remedied within 10 days. The courts can still dismiss cases over 60 days old.

**HB 1425** – warning signs in work zones must state that workers are present

**HB 2538** – certain out-of-state vehicles are exempt from compulsory inspection

**HB 2922** – it an offense by the railway company when a train blocks a street, railroad crossing or highway for more than 10 minutes

**HB 3433** – dismissal of tickets for traffic offenses occurring in a work zone where workers are present is not permitted

**SB 1157** – reporting federal or military court actions to Department of Public Safety for driver record purposes is permitted. 1805s issued on base, will now reflect on an individual's state driver's license.

## 47th Medical Group

Active duty members may be reimbursed when using their privately owned vehicle to transport their 4-year-old (or younger) dependent to and from medical appointments outside the local area. The dependent must be referred by a medical group provider and be placed on non-medical attendant orders authorizing the travel.

If you have any questions regarding this policy, call Senior Airman Francisco Cantu at 298-6304.



All Laughlin service members traveling to Wilford Hall Medical Center or Brooke Army Medical Center should stop by WHMC or BAMC outpatient card at each facility. Please allow one hour for processing.

Members with medical appointments at civilian facilities should go to the Tricare office as soon as possible after their visit with all paperwork and the results of examinations or procedures to ensure the best quality of care.



# Trainees gain new perspective during BMT ‘Warrior Week’

**By Staff Sgt. Chuck Widener**  
*Air Education and Training Command public affairs*  
LACKLAND AIR FORCE BASE, Texas – Air Force basic trainees are “living it rough” and loving it during the first occurrence of Warrior Week, a program that creates warrior-oriented airmen and is the foundation for the expeditionary aerospace force.

“This is great,” said trainee Michael A. Avellino of the course, which kicked off here Oct. 1. The 320th Training Squadron Flight 653 dorm chief said he had been looking forward to attending the course since before enlisting in February. He researched Warrior Week on the Web. When he saw the camp was under construction, he said he couldn’t wait to get here.

“I wanted Warrior Week,” he said, “and we’re just lucky enough to fall in on the first graduating class in Air Force history, which makes it really exciting.”

Trainee Irene Kastanas called Warrior Week fun. “I like it out here,” said the element leader. “Even when I was marching for five miles with my duffel bag, I liked it.”

Avellino and Kastanas are part of the first group of trainees to officially complete Warrior Week. The group graduated the course Oct. 9 during a ceremony here in which Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch spoke about Warrior Week’s significance.

“This marks the beginning of a necessary transformation of our culture and mindset,” said Finch during the ceremony. “What you, our newest airmen, have

learned here is invaluable to you and to those who await your arrival at your first duty station. You’ve gained the basic knowledge and skills to help you understand deployment environments and how you must operate within them. You are by far more prepared for the missions our nation asks of our Air Force than any other group of airmen who have come before you.”

Staff Sgt. James Habeck, a military training instructor, agreed with Finch’s comments and added that Warrior Week “is an eye-opening experience for (trainees)” and that experience is an important part of helping airmen develop a better understanding of the EAF concept.

“The experience alone is what I truly think is the most important part of Warrior Week,” said the five-year instructor. “Right away it sets the tone for what they’re going to encounter after training. All the stuff on top of that – the academic learning and so forth - is just icing on the cake.”

During Warrior Week, trainees experience mobility



Photo by Robbin Cresswell

Trainees scurry across the sand in a race to see who can complete the confidence course the quickest. As part of the Warrior Week experience, trainees take on the course to test their physical abilities and mental determination while building teamwork within the flight.

orientations, tactical briefings and applications, and various team-building exercises designed to test leadership, followership and team adaptability under stress.

Additionally, they go through a field training experience, or FTX, which includes mobility line processing, force protection, laws of armed conflict training, code of conduct familiarization, field communications, self-aid and buddy care, readiness and nuclear-biological-out

**See ‘Warriors,’ page 7**

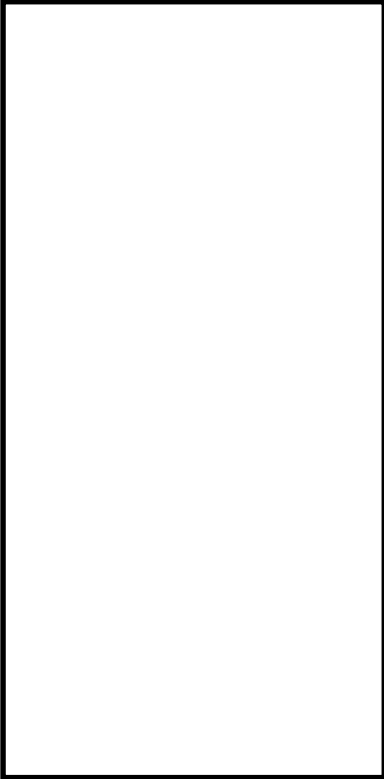
**‘Safety,’ from page 1**

FY95, with 25 destroyed aircraft. There are areas that need improvement, both operational and logistical, and these problems have been highlighted for increased emphasis. But many solutions are not simple, quick or cheap, so we must learn from these mishaps and be aware of the hazards until fixes are implemented.

On a positive note, we had our lowest number of flight fatalities (nine) in history. The low fatality figure indicates that our equipment is effective and our pilots are making timely decisions to eject.

FY99 saw a significant increase in operations tempo and weapons expenditures. Despite this, there was a 17 percent reduction in weapons mishaps. The greatest improvement was a 32 percent decrease in missile mishaps. Many of the mishaps that did occur were the result of handling and transportation. This significant reduction is a testament to diligence in accomplishing the mission with the utmost care and dedication.

I am confident that we can continue to improve our safety record if we take care of each other and speak up when the risks are too high. Common sense, good judgment and discipline are too often overlooked, leading to tragedy. Let’s all work together to make the new year the safest yet!



# CPR training helps Hickam child-care provider save life

**By Airman 1st Class  
Jennifer Thompson**

*15th Air Base Wing Public*

HICKAM AIR FORCE BASE, Hawaii – A family child care provider here saved an infant under her care from becoming a potential fatality in her home recently.

Hospital officials said the five-month-old infant, Max Hartman, had experienced an apparent life-threatening event. “If Traci Brocksmith didn’t know CPR, who knows what the turnout would have been?” asked Deborah Nickles, FCC coordinator. “It was his third day under

my care,” Brocksmith said. “He was sleeping in the playpen and as I was walking through the living room, I heard him breathing strange. When I picked him up, he went from gray to blue in only a few seconds — it was just so fast. “I called his name and he didn’t respond, he just went

limp,” said Brocksmith, who is in her fourth year of providing child care on a military installation. “I flipped him on his back and breathed in his face, flipped him again and did back pats. When I flipped him on his back again, I had to wipe away some mucus from his mouth and he

**See ‘CPR,’ page 11**



**‘Survey,’ from page 2**

on why more people didn’t take the opportunity to be heard and was surprised by the answers. We found that many people thought the 1997 survey would take too long to complete. Others felt the survey results wouldn’t make a difference, and still some didn’t participate because they feared their input

would not remain anonymous. Let me address each concern and give you my take.

First, the survey should take only about a half-hour to complete and is available on the Web at <http://csafsurvey.randolph.af.mil> for easier access. It is also available in versions for local networks and individual paper copies to

ensure everyone has a chance to participate.

There were 140 questions in the 1997 survey. This year’s survey has 127. Each question was reviewed to be sure commanders, major commands and the air staff get an honest and clear picture of your quality of life and organizational issues.

For those who didn’t take

the survey because they felt it wouldn’t make a difference, know that the entire Air Force leadership team takes this survey very seriously. So seriously, in fact, we’ve already put funding into the budget for the next three surveys in 2001, 2003 and 2005.

Indeed, the survey does make a difference. The 1997 survey results helped provide commanders at all levels with valuable information they used to improve their organizations. These improvements ranged from adding additional workout areas and operating hours to a base’s fitness center to major projects to improve overall quality of life and organizational climate. Some improvements focused on leadership communication and team building in the workplace — all key issues identified by the members of those organizations.

The 1997 survey also told us that the post-1986 retirement system — Redux — no longer had the same pull as a retention tool. We took that information to the administration and Congress in 1998 and pushed for a return to the 50 percent retire-

ment system. They listened and the rest is history.

Those concerned about privacy should know we’ve taken great measures to ensure your anonymity. The whole point of this survey is to allow complete honesty and openness throughout the process. The survey data contains only information related to rank and duty status. Furthermore, the way we’ll tabulate the data will also ensure there is no access to individual data by anyone for any reason. The idea is to use overall scores to find out what the real climate is like and to identify major issues across our Air Force.

As we look to the future, we must continue to find ways to make our Air Force better for our people and their families. Clearly, as more people participate in the survey, our view of reality becomes more precise and our ability to make meaningful changes improves significantly. The survey is available through Oct. 29 so there’s still plenty of time to participate. I’m counting on all of you to “speak today, shape tomorrow!”

(AFPN)



Question of the week

How did you contribute to  
Air Amistad '99?



“I set out, picked up and emptied trash cans on the flightline.”

**Airman 1st Class  
Marjean A. Rosales**  
*47th Medical Support  
Squadron*



“I directed a cast of out-standing individuals who set up all the support for Air Amistad '99! I couldn't have done it without them. Thanks, support team. I look forward to working with all of you next year!”

**Capt. Tony Holmes**  
*47th Support Group,  
Transportation Division chief*



“My staff and I coordinated all the static and demonstration aircraft that were part of Air Amistad '99.”

**Maj. Rodney Hamilton**  
*84th Flying Training Squadron,  
assistant deputy of operations*



“I supported the squadron duty desk to accomplish the T-38 flyby.”

**Staff Sgt.  
Roxanne Cortez**  
*87th Flying Training  
Squadron*

‘CPR,’ from page 7

started to breathe.

“I had never been so scared in all my life. I’m so grateful that little boy is OK,” she said.

All military members who wish to work with children, whether in their home or at a base child-care facility, must attend cardiopulmonary resuscitation and first aid training courses. Air Force family child-care training includes a variety of classes such as child health, learning, communication, food handling and an overview and prevention of child abuse.

A free 32-hour orientation with an emphasis on CPR and first aid is offered here.

“CPR and first aid is so important, we feel it is vital that we dedicate one full day of training to those issues alone,” said Nora Kamai, FCC coordinator.

“Traci handled the situation very well. She followed FCC guidelines faithfully,” Kamai said. “She had just renewed her CPR certification in May, an annual requirement for all providers.”

“She did such a wonderful job, but the biggest thing is she didn’t panic,” Nickles said. “That’s one thing we emphasize, especially for infants and children. We teach providers to administer CPR to children and infants at least one minute before calling the paramedics — the first minutes are so crucial.”

Once the infant began breathing, Brocksmith called the paramedics, the infant’s parents, and then the FCC office, just as she had been trained to do in her orientation class four years ago.

Two FCC coordinators respond to emergency incidents not only to provide child care for the other children, but also

support for the child care provider.

“Usually, we try to get the other children’s parents to pick them up so child care providers can recover from whatever they may have gone through,” Nickles said.

Although an exact cause of the event could not be determined, hospital officials offered their diagnosis to the infant’s parents.

“They think Max’s larynx had closed up to prevent fluid from going into his lungs while he was sleeping. When Traci patted his back, his throat was cleared and he was able to take a breath,” said Kelly Hartman, the infant’s mother and hair stylist at the base barber shop.

“I have two children and have never had to use CPR on them,” Brocksmith said. “I never worried about having to use it ... I’ve always had to worry about scrapes and boo-boos, but never CPR. I always worried I would forget it in an emergency, but somewhere along the line, I must have retained it.”

Hartman had never been trained in CPR until that day.

“If this had happened even a day earlier, I wouldn’t even have known what to do,” Hartman said. “I just never thought I would have to use it, but before I left the hospital that day, I made sure I knew how to administer CPR.”

“Every parent should know CPR,” said Veria Green, a FCC U.S. Department of Agriculture food monitor. “It should be required for all new parents.” She said that the class teaches that babies should be kept within sight, even during naps.

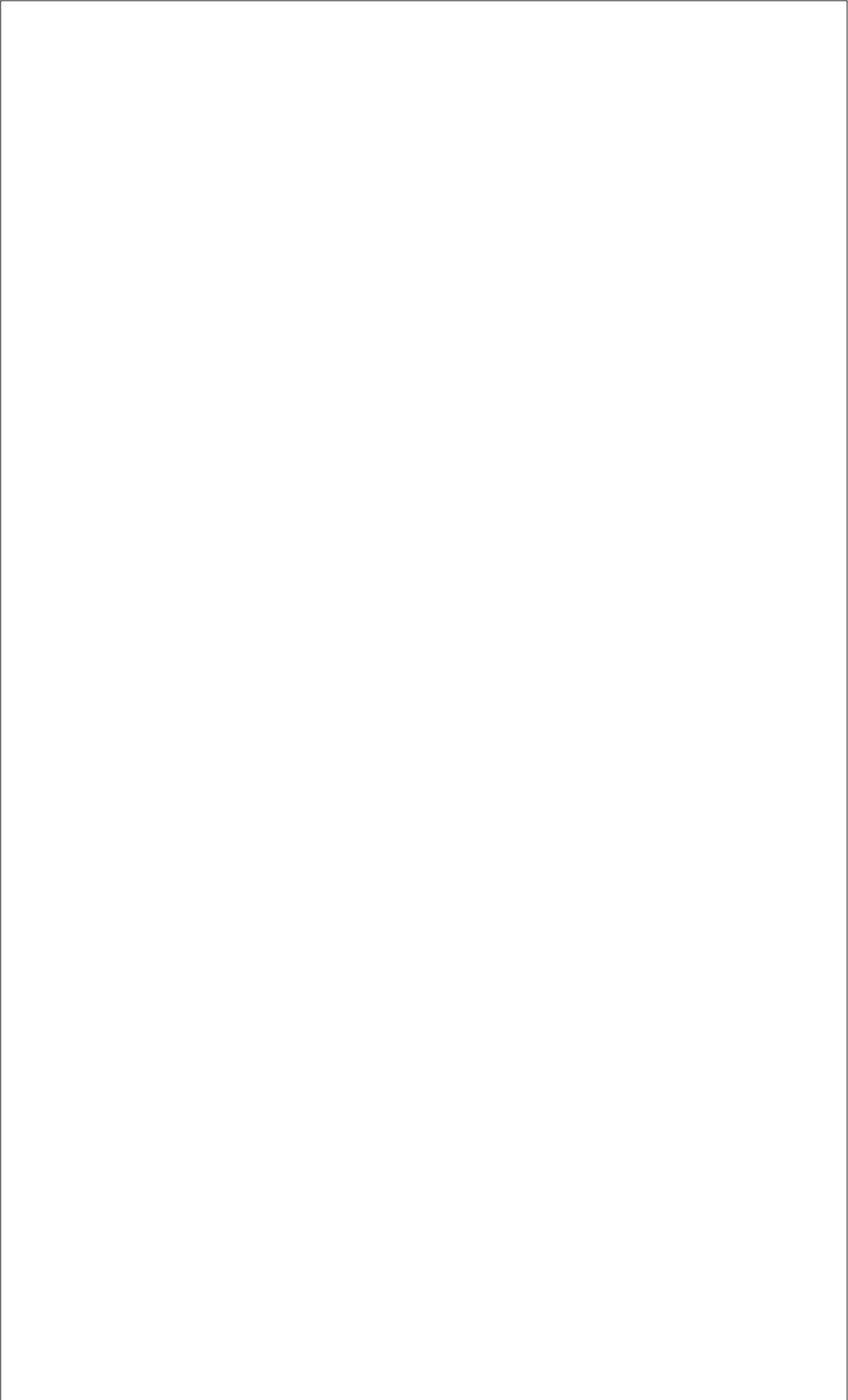
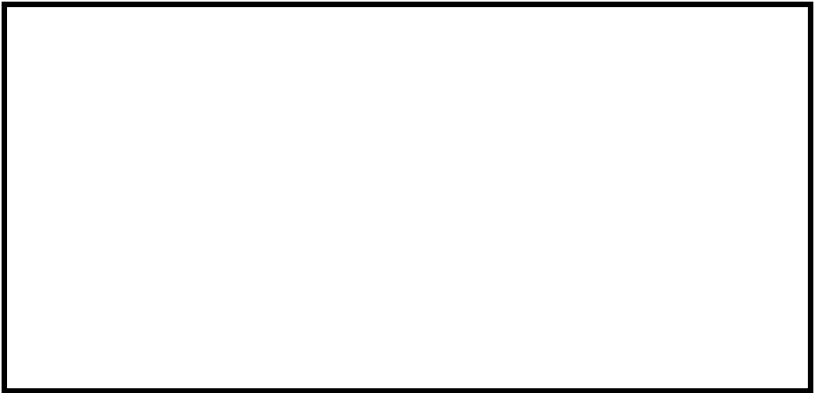
“The fact that he was in the same room with her saved that

child’s life,” Green added.

“Max will be going back to Traci’s soon,” Hartman said.

“I’m more confident about leaving him there because Traci definitely knows what to do. It’s very reassuring to know that these child care providers are so prepared.”

(Courtesy of Pacific Air Forces News Service)







# *Laughlin delivers – through r* **Air** **Amistad '99**



# rain, wind and cold – at ...



**By Senior Airman Mike Hammond**  
*Editor*

The first guest at this year's air show was none other than Mother Nature! Bringing temperatures in the 50s, intermittent rain and 20 knot winds, nature did her best to put a damper on the events Sunday. But instead, a spirit of fun and adventure shined through in the people of Laughlin and the surrounding communities – allowing our neighbors to see the Air Force in action.

Photos (clockwise from top left): Groups of people seek shelter from the elements in the belly of a C-5 Galaxy cargo aircraft on the flightline; Parkas came in handy for these individuals as they look at an AH-1 Cobra gunship; Many base organizations set up booths, selling food and memorabilia; In addition to aerial displays of current Air Force aircraft, vintage airplanes from organizations such as the Confederate Air Force also performed at the show; A C-130 Hercules was open to those wanting to have a look around; People braved the elements to get a look inside the KC-10 Extender refueler. (Photos by Guillermo Lopez).



Photo by Senior Airman Mike Hammond

Cox helps Zenaphir Bond, 47th Flying Training Wing public affairs office, fill out a suggestion under the new IDEA program Oct. 1. Bond was the first person in the wing to submit a suggestion after the program was revamped.

# IDEA program gets automated

On Oct. 1, the Air Force Innovative Development through Employee Awareness program began the third phase of implementation. This phase makes the IDEA program data system available to all Air Force members and employees.

This automated data system is designed to reduce processing times and speed award payments for approved ideas. Social security numbers and e-mail notifications are contained

within the data system and are the primary tools that drive the system.

This new data system speeds the ability to complete job responsibility portions within three workdays. Evaluators will receive five workdays to complete the base level evaluation. Most units on base have appointed points of contact that are trained on the system and can assist users with system submissions and evaluations as well.

Within Air Education and Training Command, the base level manpower and organization office will continue to serve as the independent reviewer. Upon completion of an evaluation and approving an idea in the IDEA program data system, employees of the MO office will review all award amounts and validate tangible savings before processing an award payment. If warranted, the MO office can form an awards committee, talk

with local finance officials, request judge advocate guidance or call upon local auditors to ensure award propriety.

The data system can be accessed on the web at [http\\ideas.satx.disa.mil](http://ideas.satx.disa.mil) from any government computer with an a .mil address. Air Force members who do not have e-mail accounts or Internet access can contact the unit points of contact or the base MO office for assistance.

“We want to thank the Laughlin team for their continued participation in the Air Force IDEA program,” said Anita Cox, IDEA analyst for the 47th Flying Training Wing MO office. “Laughlin submitters have saved more than \$196,000 in fiscal year 1999 with their innovative ideas. A special thanks to our unit points of contact for their outstanding effort in assisting customers and for their patience during this time of transition.





Photo by Airman Brad Pettit

## Spreading the message!

Airman 1st Class Jason Barton, Health Service Management journeyman, 47th Medical Support Squadron, places a purple ribbon on a truck antenna to support the Purple Ribbon Campaign, which is part of National Domestic Violence Awareness Month. The purple ribbon signifies the bruises resulting from daily domestic violence in America.

## Where are they now?

**Name:** Maj. Ray Lovelace.  
**Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin:** Class 87-04, April 10, 1987.

**Aircraft you fly and base you are stationed at:** The last aircraft I flew was the C-141B. I have a staff job at Hurlburt Field, Fla.

**What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin?** Actually, I returned to Laughlin as a T-38 instructor pilot. That was my best overall assignment in the Air Force to date. Everyone worked hard to accomplish the mission.

**What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin?** Make the most out of your training year. You have only one objective. Show instructors you want to work hard. That, and attitude will get you a long way.

## Double your intake.

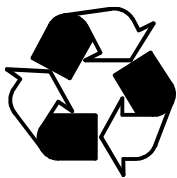
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**<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>**

# Did you know?

*Recycling an aluminum can saves enough energy to run a television set for three hours.*



# Thank you!

***Air show coordinator looks back at support given by base members for Air Amistad '99***

**By Maj. Alan Shafer**

*Air Amistad '99 coordinator*

The success of Air Amistad '99 can be directly attributed to the efforts of Laughlin's XL team. Not one person, or a few - but all 3,952 of you. Each person stepped up when called upon and gave his or her very best. The goal was to create "The Best Little Air Show in Texas," and judging from the comments I heard from our visiting aircrews and guests, Laughlin achieved that goal.

It all started with the great, detailed plan on how to run an airshow provided by the committee of Air Amistad '98. They laid the foundation that we built our show on. The planning committee of this year's show - especially the ground boss, Capt. Tony Holmes, and the air boss, Maj. Rodney Hamilton, prepared and flawlessly executed a great plan.

A big thank you to the entire 47th Contracting Squadron and the 47th Comptroller Flight for the extra hours they worked to make the air show a success. These people were called upon to contract and pay for this event 16 days into the new fiscal year. When I had my doubts it would all come together, they asked me to step back let them go - and go they did!

More than 500 members of the XL team were asked to work during the airshow, most of you providing medical, security, transportation, and maintenance support. Nearly 300 more volunteers were used in the setup and takedown of the booths, ex-

hibits, and other essential details that contributed to the overall airshow.

Maintenance deserves special thanks for all the work they accomplished in converting the flight line and hangar 3 into the ramp we needed for the air show. They moved more than one-third of the wing's aircraft inventory to alternate locations to accommodate the large concession and static display areas.

For all the planning and work accomplished, we can't control the weather. As I stood out on the ramp in the cold wind and rain, watching hundreds of you brave the elements to do your assigned mission, I never saw your spirits waver. You greeted the public with a smile and charged on. I must admit, that about mid-afternoon when the rain started again, I wasn't sure why we were still on the ramp freezing. Then I saw the crowd gasp and point to the north. When I saw that B-2 fly by, my question was answered. We were there for them, our friends and neighbors who support us the other 364 days a year.

Not once during the 12 months of planning did one person say, "I can't," "impossible," or "no way." Never before have I seen such an effort given by 100 percent of this base. From the bottom of my heart, and on behalf of the wing commander and wing leadership, the base population, and the thousands of civilians from the surrounding area, THANK YOU! You all did an "XL"lent job!

# Knowledge of nutrition helps promote physical, mental health

**By Staff Sgt. Jenny Ruiz**  
*47th Aeromedical Dental Squadron*

Nobody wants to be fat. Nobody wants to be unhealthy. Nobody wants to feel tired all day. And yet, every day, the overwhelming majority of us ca-

sually eat whatever looks good, whatever we feel like eating right then, or whatever we have time for. Obviously some things are bad for us, and some things are good for us, but it doesn't really make a difference ... or does it?

Diet and exercise habits are responsible for a healthy, or unhealthy body. With those habits a person can help control how long they might live, how they look, feel, perform and even how smart they are! Clearly, nutrition and exer-

cise are things everyone should pay close attention to. Two-thirds of Americans know that by changing their diet and exercise habits they would become healthier, but they just can't do it because they lack the will to change. So, who has the will to change? We, at the Health and Wellness Center, would love to convince everyone to have the will to change!

The first step is to be aware that everything one eats and drinks is affecting their life. Once a conscious connection such as, "gee, those 10 cups of coffee a day sure are making me tired in the morning"), one can start taking their health seriously.

The next, and most important step is to start looking carefully at the nutritional value, or lack thereof, of what one is eating and drinking. Using the Food Guide Pyramid as a guideline is a great start. And taking a visit to the Health and Wellness Center can help one understand how to use the Pyramid correctly.

Why don't diets work? Food gives a body energy. When a person has less energy than is required, their body thinks it's starving and burns muscle to fuel its energy requirements. So, that actually slows down their metabolism. When going through a process

of starvation, the body will store whatever it can as body fat to protect itself. It will also respond to a threat of starvation by increasing the fat-depositing enzymes, which in turn stores more fat.

So, why do people gain weight after they've lost it? When a person lowers their metabolism, their body requires fewer calories. When they get off a diet, their body starts craving all that it was missing. Therefore, their calorie consumption increases and they gain back more fat than lean muscle mass. Even if they eat the same amount of calories as they did before the diet, they will not maintain their weight, because they've lost lean muscle mass. In fact, because caloric needs decrease, they will end up gaining weight! This explains the yo-yo dieting effect.

By dieting, people do themselves more harm than good. Diets simply don't work! You need energy as much as your body needs its daily natural resources – fats, proteins, carbohydrates, minerals, vitamins and water, all of which no diet can replace.

If anyone wants to take care of himself or herself, but isn't sure how to do that, come by the Health and Wellness Center in the clinic, or call 6464.



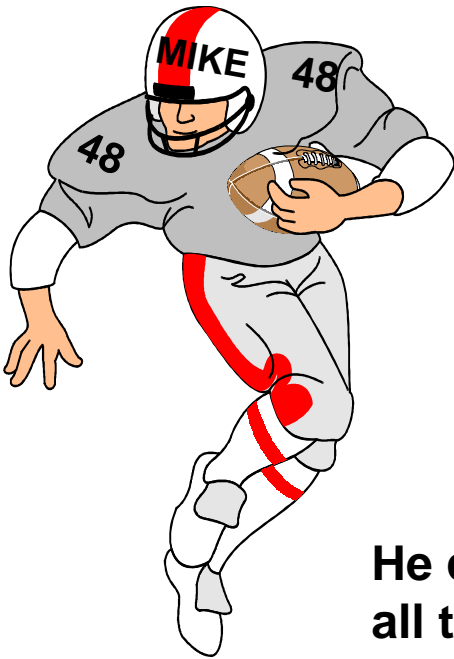
## The players' picks for NFL week 7

Each correct pick of weekly matchups earns a player one point, accumulating weekly. The three top players from the first half of the season will compete against the top three from the second half to determine the overall champion at the end of the playoffs. To participate in the second half of the season, contact the **Border Eagle** at 5393 by Oct. 21. This weeks matchups (home teams in bold): BAL – K.C., BUF – **SEA**, CHI – **T.B.**, CIN – **IND**, CLE – **STL**, DEN – **N.E.**, DET – **CAR**, G.B. – **S.D.**, N.O. – **NYG**, NYJ – **OAK**, PHI – **MIA**, S.F. – **MIN**, WAS – **DAL**, ATL – **PIT**.

<i>Reggie Woodruff</i>	<i>Mike Hammond</i>	<i>Brad Pettit</i>	<i>Clarence Hardy</i>	<i>RB Robinson</i>	<i>Tony Holmes</i>
BAL	K.C.	K.C.	K.C.	K.C.	K.C.
BUF	BUF	BUF	BUF	BUF	<b>SEA</b>
T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.	T.B.
IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND
STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL
DEN	N.E.	DEN	N.E.	N.E.	N.E.
CAR	CAR	DET	DET	CAR	DET
G.B.	G.B.	G.B.	S.D.	S.D.	S.D.
NYG	NYG	N.O.	NYG	NYG	N.O.
OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK
MIA	MIA	<b>PHI</b>	MIA	MIA	MIA
MIN	S.F.	S.F.	S.F.	MIN	MIN
WAS	WAS	DAL	DAL	WAS	DAL
PIT	PIT	ATL	PIT	PIT	PIT

## Players' point totals

Mike Hammond – 48	Clarence Hardy – 39
Tony Holmes – 43	R.B. Robinson – 38
Reggie Woodruff – 42	Brad Pettit – 36 <small>(week 5 winner, 9 pts.)</small>



He could go  
all the way!

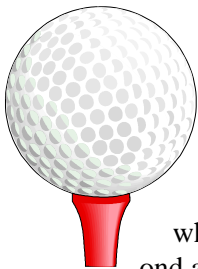
## Hole-in-one made at base golf tournament

A golf championship tournament was held Oct. 9th and 10th at the Leaning Pine Golf Course. and Ted Soto finished third.

The highlight of the tournament came when Tory Erwin sank a hole-in-one on hole 8 during the first day of the championship tournament.

Mike Cosgriff was named the base champion for the tournament.

In the championship flight, Vic Meza took home first, while Hoppy Henegar finished sec-



In the first flight, Ray Hamel won first, Manny Reyna took second and Dave Leroy finished in third places.

Fred Langfor finished first in the second flight, John Duncan placed second and John Stipo got third.

The third flight consisted of Tom Hensley, who took home first, Dave Poole, who finished second and Saul Olivan who left with third place.

